

Gateway

Sports



Czajkowski on Sport

It was supposed to be somewhat of a bash the wicked Bisons weekend.

After all, something like seven of the Golden Bears were playing in their last game as such and it would have been nice to win that game for them.

There was confidence on the team and in the stands before game time that the home club could and would do it.

One Golden Bear cornerback served notice to several people in public to watch him when the Bisons ran the power sweep around his end.

We did and he wasn't even in the play. The first two power sweeps around his end went for touchdowns.

But this time no one can lay the blame on the Bears or any individual on the team for the loss. It was a clear Bison victory and it was an earned one.

The Bisons have been running the power sweep for two years and no club in the WCIAA has been able to stop the play effectively. Until they do the Bisons will remain number one.

Our poor cornerback didn't have a chance. Not with a shifty halfback like Dennie Hrycaiko carrying the ball behind two and sometimes three blockers.

The first time he was faked out of his cletes by Hrycaiko and the second time he performed a beautiful sommer-sault over a Manitoba blocker's shoulders.

That's not saying that the Bisons had better personnel than the Bears. As Bison coach Henry Janzen put it, the Bears had the better individual players and the Bisons had the better team.

He pointed to the vastly superior number of Bears making pro ranks. The moral of the story is that it takes a team to win.

Another loser

Let's take a look at another loser, the puck squad.

The situation isn't as desperate here.

Granted the hockey Bears have yet to win a game in four exhibition starts.

Granted that the Bears have been rated the best club in the West on paper and as such should have won at least some of those games.

But the situation isn't what it appears to be although some changes definitely have to be made on the Bear roster.

The Bears went into the last two series of games against the Dinnies without a set line-up and found out that the Dinnies are undoubtedly a much improved club over last year.

Coach Brian MacDonald scheduled the games as an experimentation session to determine the line-up. However, he should now have a good idea of where his club's talent lies and where the strengths and weaknesses lie.

He should also have an idea about how to win a few games. Hopefully it will be more than a few.

Of course there is another item to consider. That is Coach Brian MacDonald himself.

In past years he has shown an inability to win with the hockey club. However, he has had a disadvantage in those years of past glory in that he was inserted only for a few games in each of those seasons as a substitute coach. Nevertheless he lost.

* * *

Our defending champion basketball team has won its first game of the season in grand style.

Mind you they had to go back and pick on some oldtimers to do it.

Not taking anything away from the Alumni, it remains to be seen how well the Bears will make out against regular competition of WCIAA calibre.

The Tri-University Classic in Lethbridge should provide that competition next weekend.

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